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Sharon Wright Sonoma County and Cities BAY BRIDGE DESIGN TASK FORCE Wednesday, April 16, 1997, 5:30 p.m. County Administration Building Board of Supervisors Chambers Room 107 651 Pine Street Martinez, CA Chairperson: Mary King Members: Sharon Brown

> Mark DeSaulnier Elihu Harris Tom Hsieh Jon Rubin

Angelo Siracusa

Staff Liaison: Steve Heminger

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome, introduction of MTC Task Force, and review of public participation process -- Mary King, MTC
- 2. Welcome, introduction of Contra Costa Transportation Authority -- Mary King, MTC
- 3. Staff report on issues presented -- Steve Heminger, MTC
 - a. Bicycle lane
 - b. Bus/Carpool lane
 - c. Summary of Engineering and Design Advisory Panel (EDAP) meeting
 - d. Summary of other public comments received to date
- 4. Presentation by Caltrans -- Denis Mulligan/Brian Maroney
 - Video presentation on bridge design alternatives
- 5. Other Business/Public Comment

<u>Public Comment</u>: The public is encouraged to comment on agenda items at committee meetings by completing a request-to-speak card (available from staff) and passing it to the committee secretary or chairperson. Public comment may be limited by any of the procedures set forth in Section 3.09 of MTC's Procedures Manual (Resolution No. 1058, Revised) if, in the chair's judgment, it is necessary to maintain the orderly flow of business.

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(COMM/BAY BRIDGE/AGENDA)

Lawrence D. Dabms
Executive Director

William F. Hein Deputy Executive Director

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24	REPORTED BY: ADRIENNE PERETTI, CSR NO. 11029					
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18	Meeting of San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge
19	Design Task Force at 651 Pine Street, Room 107,
20-	Martinez, California, commencing at 5:40 p.m.,
21	Wednesday, April 16, 1997, before me,
22	Adrienne Peretti, CSR No. 11029.
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4	CHAIR:				
5	MARY KING REPRESENTING ALAMEDA COUNTY				
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7	MEMBERS:				
8	SHARON BROWN REPRESENTING CITIES OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY				
9	MARK DeSAULNIER REPRESENTING CONTRA COSTA COUNTY				
10	TOM HSIEH REPRESENTING SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY				
11	JON RUBIN REPRESENTING CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO				
12 13	STEVE HEMINGER STAFF LIAISON				
14	REPRESENTATIVES OF CALTRANS:				
15	BRIAN MARONEY PROJECT ENGINEER				
16 17	DENIS MULLIGAN DEPUTY DISTRICT DIRECTOR				
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19	REPRESENTATIVE OF BAY CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION:				
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MS. KING: Good evening. We will now convene as the Bay Bridge Design Task Force. And we thank our host council tonight, Contra Costa County, for allowing us to hold our public hearing -- or second public hearing in their chambers.

I'd like to introduce the Design Task Force to you. To my far right is Jon Rubin, commissioner from the City and County of San Francisco. To my immediate right is Mark DeSaulnier from Contra Costa County. As you probably know, he is in his regular seat. And to my left is Sharon Brown from Contra Costa County.

Each member of the task force might have something to say.

Mr. Rubin, would you like to make any comments?

MR. RUBIN: I hope to hear smart comments, relevant comments today.

MR. DESAULNIER: I would like to welcome all of you -- public and members of the committee -- to my home where I spend Tuesday afternoons, most of it enjoyable, but as some of you know, some of it -- well, other than enjoyable.

I really hope today that from my constituents, we hear some -- as the newspaper

mentioned locally this past week, some relevant discussion on what is our primary chore; that is, the design elements and the aesthetics of the bridge replacement. So that's my request to my constituents, to come up here and make a compassionate plea for whatever design you think is the best one.

MS. KING: Thank you.

MS. BROWN: I want to thank everybody for coming. I know what it takes, and I appreciate you being here. As I believe Jon mentioned, I hope we hear substantive comments tonight when talking about the construction of the bridge and the impacts that it would have if it was a problem. So we are happy we are here and look forward to hearing from you. Thank you.

MS. KING: I would also like to thank for their attendance and introduce at this time members of the Contra Costa County Transportation Authority who have joined us. Executive director Bob McCleary is here.

Bob, maybe you could introduce yourself and the members.

MR. McCLEARY: I will introduce those here

so far. We have John Marcus, Charlie Abrams, and Commissioner -- Sergeant Littlehale. We expect two or three other members to arrive momentarily.

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MS. KING: Very good. And we will look forward to hearing your comments at the time that we have public comments. And we will hear from you first, certainly.

Just to go back again about what the purpose of our Design Task Force is, it is, in fact, twofold: First, to attempt to develop a consensus recommendation on a design option for the new eastern span of the Bay Bridge. Caltrans has, at this point, proposed four design options. And we are pleased with their support. They are here presently.

We should have you introduce yourself at this point.

MR. MULLIGAN: Thank you, Madam Chair. My name is Denis Mulligan, and I work for Caltrans here in the Bay Area. To my right is Brian Maroney. He's the project manager for the new San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge.

MS. KING: Thank you.

And to show that they have been working with us very carefully, we initially had only two

design options, and we are now up to four. So anybody who says we're entrenched bureaucrats, can be sadly rebutted by the actions that we have demonstrated on the part of this task force.

My oversight -- certainly this commission
-- this committee is a committee of the
Metropolitan Transportation Commission and our
chairperson James Spering is present.

James where are you? There you are. Thank you very much for being with us. And we will be interested in hearing any comments that you might have tonight also.

So there are now four design options. The initial proposals were a skyway viaduct and a twin-tower cable-stay bridge. In the past few weeks we've brought fourth four designs: Another for a single-tower cable-stay bridge and an arch bridge, which they describe as a modification of the viaduct concept. Caltrans has also indicated they are willing to consider additional options providing they meet strict engineering and design criteria required for this critical project.

This evening, Caltrans will review the designs with us, the design alternatives they've proposed. All design options are also being

evaluated by a team of cost reviewers, engineers, seismic specialists, and design experts that are shown on the first three steps of the time -- where is the timetable? To the left. So if you have an opportunity to review that timetable, it shows you all the participants and how we will interface throughout the process.

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The second purpose of the Design Task Force is to recommend any additional features that might be included as part of the bridge project. We want to be clear about what we mean to be considered as additional features or extras and what we don't mean as additional features or extras.

MTC does not believe that having two standard shoulders on the new bridge is extra. We also do not believe that additional seismic retrofit of the existing west span, so that it is as strong as the east span, is an extra. MTC believes both of these items must be included in the base cost of this new bridge.

This base cost will be used to determine the cost sharing arrangement that is currently being negotiated between the legislature and others in Sacramento. And as you know, as a citizenry who will be using this bridge, what they don't pay for,

we'll be paying for in bridge tolls. So we can use your assistance in lobbing for everything that we can get out of the government and the legislature with regard to their co-payment.

We do acknowledge that certain additional features, however, such as cable towers, bike lanes, and other design elements that may be desired by our Bay Area community and will provide an extra cost, are features that may not be borne by the State. I think it's important to emphasize that the best bridge design may not necessarily be the most expensive, so we will be looking for economy as well.

The schedule for the task force, the large timetable shows you that the engineering design review experts are scheduled to complete their work in June, culminating their report to this task force.

The MTC Design Task Force, which is before you now, will then have another two months to complete its deliberations, by the end of July. We appreciate, as has been mentioned by my colleagues from Contra Costa County, the citizens who are present, having taken the time out of their busy schedules to be here this evening to give us the

benefit of your advice and opinions on the design of the new bridge.

Obviously, hearing from as many people as possible in this critical work of the task force is important so that we can reach some kind of consensus to bring forward to Caltrans, some community consensus, and receive your support in that way.

We have had one public meeting in Oakland already. We have two more public meetings scheduled in Solano and San Francisco Counties. The dates and locations are listed on a fact sheet, which would have been available for you as you entered the room.

We have also established three other ways for the public to comment on the new bridge design. There is a telephone comment line. You can contact us through the Internet or through the mail. And you can get that information from the table in the back.

I would also like to introduce, at this point, the staff from BCDC, the Bay Conservation and Development Commission, staffed by Will Travis.

They are working jointly with us because the impacts of a new span will clearly have impacts to the

environment and to the Bay and the Bay Region. And so we appreciate your participation.

Did you have any comments you wanted to make?

MR., TRAVIS: I do. Thank you for visiting us, and I look forward to hearing from the public today.

MS. KING: We also have on this committee one of MTC's finest Steve Heminger. And Steve will, at this point, give us an update of the several issues that have been raised in connection with the design of the Bay Bridge.

MR. HEMINGER: Thank you, Madam Chair. You do have in front of you a packet from us on four issues that have been raised today. The first one is the question of a bicycle lane, not only on the new span, on the eastern side, but on the existing western span which will not be replaced. And I would like to ask Denis Mulligan to bring you up-to-date on where Caltrans is in evaluating that proposal.

MR. MULLIGAN: Thank you, Steve.

At the last meeting, you requested that we investigate the feasibility of a bike path on the westbound span of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay

Bridge. Previously, we provided information and cost on the bike path for various options presented on the east span because we recognize that as one of the issues that the Design Task Force will wish to comment on. And one of the options has led to contemplation after your request at that last meeting. We have been working.

The first step is to determine feasibility, of whether the bridge can handle the additional weight of a bike path or can a cable base handle the weight. It's a very fundamental concept, and it appears that it may be feasible based on just that one concept, to put a bike path on the bridge. We checked that initially because if that was not the case, we would stop, and there would be no need for further study.

The next step to check is the issues associated with that, associated with the feasibility if it's your pleasure. And that includes to see how bikes would get on and off the bridge on the two spans and to develop cost estimates for bike paths on the bridge.

It's important to know that dynamic studies are done with respect to wind loading and wind storm on the additional structure, and there are thousands

of elements on the bridge. But we will, at your pleasure, see further studies involving some preliminary cost estimates for an average alternative for putting it on the span,

San Francisco Bay project. We know that seismic safety is of paramount importance. We have work underway to finalize the plans, the specifications, and estimates, for the project to seismically strengthen the west span of the

San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge. We are proceedings full speed ahead with that effort. We are not defecting that effort. We are not delaying that effort. They are in no way modifying this effort with respect to your request at this last meeting.

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MS. KING: If I might, I think if you can have that information for us by May 8th when we have our San Francisco meeting, that would probably be the most appropriate time and in the best interest at that point that we have that information.

MR. MULLIGAN: And we will do that, Madam Chair.

MR. HEMINGER: On the next item, at your last meeting in Alameda County, a representative from AC Transit proposed that you consider a car

pool and bus lane on the new eastern span. As you know, there are car pool and bus lanes heading up to the bridge, but not on the bridge, itself. And to help you in forming your responses to that proposal, we have included in our packet a detailed and, I think, excellent analysis by Caltrans Highway Operational folks that they did a few years ago.

This idea came up before of putting a car pool lane on the bridge. And I think to summarize the document, what it concludes is that heading on the bridge westbound, the metering lights have the effect of metering traffic onto the bridge, so this would not be of any advantage to having a car pool or bus lane on the bridge because the metering lights keep the bridge essentially free flowing and stack up the traffic behind the lights, and do so.

And, in fact, during the peak hours heading westbound, there is so much traffic in the car pool lanes themselves that if there was a car pool lane on the bridge, it would probably be as full as the other lanes. So it would defeat the purpose of having one.

Coming back eastbound from San Francisco to Oakland, the conclusion there is that, again, a metering phenomenon does occur. There are not

metering lights over on the San Francisco end of the bridge, but the ramps leading onto the bridge have the effect of metering the traffic on the bridge. So, again, the initial and preliminary analysis would not indicate the design or necessity of even having such a bus or car pool lane on the bridge.

We will bring this issue back to you when you enter your deliberative phase in June or July. But we want to get this information to you now. It would pleasing for us or anyone else to respond to the analysis as well.

On the fourth item, Item D, you do have a group of experts, as the Chair mentioned, who have been appointed. And in your packet, there is a roster of that group, which is now been formally constituted. It's about 32 people. It's a large group. And it's composed, in fact, of representatives from eight existing design, architectural, and engineering bodies: The American Institute of Architects, the American Society of Civil Engineers, two panels from BCDC. There is a Design and Review Board. There is an Engineering Criteria Review Broad. There are three panels from Caltrans. There is a Peer Review Panel, a Bay Bridge Review Panel, and there is a Seismic Advisory

Board. And finally, the Structural Engineers Association Board.

So I don't think we lack for expert advice. I think our challenge will probably be how to get these experts to agree with each other when they are finished with their work.

The next page in your packet is a schedule of their meetings, which they set at their first meeting on April 9th. They will be meeting again next week to approve, we hope, the engineering and the design criteria that are also included in your packet. And the purpose of these criteria are so that this group and your task force has a standard against which to judge these various alternatives instead of just saying, gee, that one is prettier than that one. And obviously the criteria involves not only designs and aesthetic considerations, but very possibly seismic considerations, which types of bridges will stand the earthquake the best.

So at this meeting on April 22nd, they will approve that criteria, and then on a workshop a three-day workshop from May 12th to May 14th, they will conduct a workshop to review the various alternatives that have been proposed both by Caltrans and from professional firms and other

members of the public, and then have two subsequent meetings to try to screen those alternatives down so that they can recommend -- let's call it a short list to you -- by early June, and then you'll take the deliberations over from there.

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So that is a report on the activities of that engineering and design advisory panel, which will be meeting concurrently with your public meetings.

And finally, as you know, we are receiving public comments in other ways besides these hearings. And the last page in your packet is a tally of those public comments that we have received to date. Basically they're in three forms: Letters that have come to the Chair, Mary King at MTC's E-mail that has been received at Caltrans; and then phone messages that have come into our regional telephone number. And if T could just plug it one more time, it's 817-1717.

You can register your comments on the new Bay Bridge and also up-to-the-minute traffic information. And you can see in terms of what sort of bridge to build, which is really the first five categories. Twenty-two folks prefer skyway.

Twenty-two prefer the cable-stay option. Nine

expresses a preference for retrofitting the existing structure. Nine expresses a preference for some sort of design competition. And four expresses a preference for a steel bridge, which would be different from the other options.

As you can see, the vast bulk of the comments we received on any structure has to do with bike lanes. And you can see how it splits out there. Thirty-three people commenting on the notion of an all-rail option on the new bridge.

Having tolls, varied. Two people commented if tolls go up, they ought to go up during the peak hours. Three people said they shouldn't go up at all. One commented on a notion of possibly not building the bridge. And four commented on the notion of not only building a replacement span, but building a new bridge at the same time, the so-called southern crossing.

So that is a summary of the comments we have received outside of these public hearing. And we will be bringing another summary to you probably in our May 8th meeting in San Francisco. I will keep you posted on what we're hearing through the phones and faxes and other meetings.

And that concludes my report.

MS. BROWN: One of the articles -- we know we have a lot of press regarding this issue. They were talking about the permit process, four years roughly once we decide the type of cost. Four years just for the permit process.

Is that accurate?

MR. HEMINGER: I think so.

MR. MULLIGAN: He's probably better qualified to answer the questions based on his experience and Caltrans is built for that region.

MR. MULLIGAN: Probably the initial schedule envisioned is three years for the scoping process and for the environmental process. After that is completed, the vision is one year for the contract process and the permit process. A lot of permits you cannot receive until you have environment clearance and three years -- for construction to be scheduled is seven years. It is our goal with your assistance to meet that schedule, and we are confident that we will.

MS. BROWN: Okay. Thank you.

MS. KING: Just as a follow up to that,

Denis, would you go into your presentation, which

you will do? Some people will hear about the

urgency of replacing the bridge because of health

and safety issues in the event of a seismic disaster. I'm sure that's why Ms. Brown asked the question. Is there a way for us to petition for fast track, to streamline the permit process, and when and how would we do that if there is a way to do it?

MR. MULLIGAN: The project will be developed in conformance with all Capital laws and regulations. We are not above the law. There were some changes in the law that streamlined parts of the process on the State side. This project is statutorily exempt from CEQA, California Environmental Quality Act. That does not apply to this project.

But there are a myriad of additional laws that apply: The Health Code of Education, including the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Defense Act, the Appropriations Act on the national level that are part of the environmental acts. The sort of restoration on the national level and the existence at the state level over the period through those because our elected officials have concerns, and those laws addressed those concerns.

For us to have any relief, we would require legislation, and so we could pursue that. We would

follow those laws as we do the project. At this point in time, our schedule was developed to commensurate with the laws that exist today and that are in place. We did not contemplate any change in law as we put together that schedule.

MR. TRAVIS: I think Denis is correct.

After the North Bridge earthquake, there was legislation passed that greatly streamlined the State permit process. As I recall, we have seven working days to process the permit for this bridge. And as Denis mentioned, the bridge -- the work is exempt from California Environmental Quality Act, but there are a lot of federal permits that are needed. So if you are thinking about relief, you would have to think about relief in Washington, not Sacramento.

MR. MULLIGAN: Well, that is very accurate.

MS. KING: That will be even harder. But we may need to think about that. I don't know.

I would like to introduce Commissioner Tom Hsieh, who has joined us. He's from the City and County of San Francisco also.

Any comments you would like to make?

MR. HSIEH: I apologize for being delayed,
and I am glad to be here.

MS. KING: Thank you, very much.

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We can move right in now because we have to. We will go to Denis and Brian Mulligan's presentation. They are the -- Denis Mulligan is the deputy district director for Caltrans and Brian Moroney is the project engineer. They will show us a video on all of the bridge design alternatives that have been studies.

And before we continue, though, with the video, which I hope you find as entertaining as we have and informative as we have. I would like to remind those who would like to present to us any comments tonight to please fill out one of the request-to-speak forms that are available at the back table and to hand them to one of the MTC staff people.

when you speak, we are also transcribing this meeting, so please identify yourself. And if you have a difficult name, spell it, so that it will be correct for our records.

MR. MULLIGAN: Thank you, Madam Chair. We have a brief presentation. It has a lot of cost figures. There is a handout as you walked in. The costs are contained in that handout.

(A video is being shown.)

2 will stimulate the discussion with respect to the 3 various issues associated with the bridge. MS. KING: Any comments? 4 5 MR. MULLIGAN: One other comment, we are 6 investigating an alternative. We do not have that 7 available for you this evening, but there are some 8 technical issues that we wish to resolve before we 9 show any images because we don't think we should 10 build all those issues, but that should be 11 forthcoming. 12 MS. KING: Sell it to McDonald's, 13 determining that we will not be able to do that. 14 MR. DESAULNIER: Maybe a sponsor. 15 MS. KING: It would be a way to pay for a 16 bike lane. 17 Now it is your turn to give us your 18 thoughts and comments. We have a number of cards. 19 But, first, I would like to ask: Did the Chair 20 come? 21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes. 22 MS. KING: John Marcus. 23 MR. MARCUS: Madam Chair, members of the

commission, good evening. I'm John Marcus, a member

of the Richmond City Council and Chair of the Contra

MR. MULLIGAN: And I hope that information

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Costa County Transportation Authority. The Authority's principal interests are a timely delivery, protection of Regional Measure 1 funds, focus on the new bridge in retrofit of the old bridge and approaches.

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As regard to timely delivery, we propose providing Federal funding of intent or exceptions to Section 4F to comment on the reasonable process of the federal environment documents for the Bay Bridge. We would like to see construction start by no later than mid 1999, which is ten years after the Loma Prieta earthquake.

As a protection of the Regional Measure 1 funds, the Authority strongly supports Regional Measure 1 projects and believes Regional Measure 1 funds should not be diverted to pay for seismic retrofit or replacement costs. As with regard to focus on the new bridge and retrofit of the old bridge and approaches, others issues such as a Transbay terminal are important. But the consideration of such issues should be separated from the replacement bridge, so the critical work can be specified before the next quake occurs.

on the aesthetics of the replacement bridge or on

issues such as including a bicycle and pedestrian lane. I believe the Authority will be concerned with any decisions on bridge type and the scope that the project reflects cost-effective decision-making on the part of MTC and the State.

We will consider these issues over the next couple of months at the Authority.

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MS. KING: Thank you.

Hermann Welm?

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MR. WELM: Good evening. I'm Hermann Welm, vice mayor of the City of San Ramon. The City has not dealt with this issue nor has it adopted any kind of position. So I am really speaking for myself as a member of the transportation state which chairs me.

I would like for the design committee to remember that a large portion of funding, that is going to be monies that are going to be used to pay the share that the State doesn't come up with, is going to come from the residences of Contra Costa and Alameda County. They are the heavy users. They are going to be most significantly impacted by the raising of tolls or by the duration by which the tolls, the higher tolls will be in place.

So cost effectiveness, I think, is an

extremely important element to this. We realize that when something comes before us, and it's a multi hundreds of millions of dollars at stake. There is almost a knee jerk reaction. So let's really gussy this up. Let's make a statement. I think we have to back up. This all does cost money. And the extra four million dollars, there are many, many other demands that could be meet with this.

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The issue of the style of bridge, we have seen the presentation -- very, very, well done -- but what we don't see is a step backwards where we see both spans and how will the spans clash with each other. Do both of them need to stand out and shout, Here I am an architectural statement? Or do we already have that architectural statement in the west span? Could one not consider that the east span is, in fact, an approach to the west span.

And, frankly, the looks and the appearance of the causeway, the less expensive option is quite nice. It comes to mind, having lived in San Diego, the bridge in Coronado, and it is not an unattractive structure. So those are my points. Thank you.

MS. KING: Thank you very much. I

appreciate your comments. But one of the reasons, I'm convinced, to ask for this commission to be convened was that we are not to consider the East Bay to be an on-ramp to go to San Francisco.

MR. WELM: That's how I said it.

MS. KING: But we do want to be cost effective because we are paying for this. Some of us see this as the most important part of the Bay.

Alex Zuckermann.

MR. ZUCKERMANN: Madam Chair and committee members, my name is Alex Zuckermann, Regional Bicycle Advisory Committee. I've appeared before you. I want to give you some new information. First of all, I have had discussions with Brian Maroney. We had a very fruitful discussion. I can attest to the fact that Caltrans, in fact, is earnestly pursuing bicycle facilities on the east as well as the west span.

What I want to impress on you about one thing mayor King is talking about add-ons. And basic shoulders are not add-ons. Okay. I'm going to suggest that a public purpose is being served by having bicycle lanes as a standard facility on this bridge. Just like you provide cities with sidewalks, you don't figure out whether that

sidewalk is cost effective you just provide it because it serves a public service. In the same way, a public service is being served by approving bicycle lane facilities. Thank you.

MS. KING: You can convince the State legislature of that, Mr. Zuckermann.

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M.T. Brink. I can hardly read it.

MR. BRINK: Thank you very much. I'll try to keep this brief. It's a proposal I have. It's a little outrageous.

MS. KING: Is it three minutes or less?

MR. BRINK: Less perhaps. It's a little

outrageous causing disbelief, but it is not a joke.

It started as I wondered whether a modern bridge could not be constructed and that would look appropriate for replacement. Of the old east way of the Bay Bridge, my proposal as it is here, is another approach to the San Francisco Bay Bridge, which I feel may help shed some light.

What do we have here? A large man-made landfill island in the middle of San Francisco Bay connected to San Francisco by the west, by the greatest supported suspension bridge in the world. But with only one lane of access from Treasure Island and a very dangerous one at that.

To the east of Yerba Buena, and now beautifully lite art deco requisite necklace of a formally most functional rail and auto causeway set in ultimately on 70-year-old, double-screw pilings.

My proposal, construct a new 10-, 12-lane wide, low, flat causeway north or south of the existing structure, remove the entire upper deck of the East Bay half of the Bay Bridge, and the entire lower deck for that matter. Take ultra light open air streams from the East Bay on the old bridge to a correctly restored 1939 Treasure Island. And in the middle of the original Treasure Island airfield, which was never constructed, build a giant multi-use art deco stadium for the Giants, 49ers, or the Olympics, or whatever.

This was published in the Chronicle a couple of weeks ago, but they did leave off the last sentence which is, "Sink it deep enough, and they will come."

Is there some better use for Treasure Island than a sea? Thank you.

MS. KING: Steve Roberti.

MR. ROBERTI: Thank you, Madam Chair and committee members. I want to thank you for coming to Contra Costa County to hold this hearing. I

think the day that this committee was formed, I was having lunch with Supervisor DeSaulnier. And after seeing the initial drawings from the paper, I expressed my views to him in terms of the skyway viaduct, it certainly looked attractive to me.

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Subsequently, I have been to San Diego and traveled over the Coronado Bridge about four times and found that to be as attractive as I thought it was before and I think that would be a good addition to the reconstruction of the Bay Bridge.

Two things also fuel that. One is the money issue. I don't think we have that kind of money to put into the cable-stay bridge when you can build the skyway viaduct if it is 100 million or 200 million dollars, and I think the aesthetics of the viaduct is very important.

The other thing I think you should consider, which I got involved in in the last week in my other life on the job, is the development of Treasure Island. There was an opening article in the San Francisco Chronicle a week ago today about developers who are coming and looking at Treasure Island for development. And I think the opening sole bid was 500 million dollars. That was from a Hong Kong interest. I also know that there are

South Korean interests that are interested in making proposals. There could be many because Treasure Island is so unique. I think the aesthetics of whatever is built there in the development of Treasure Island -- and I believe Treasure Island will be developed into something else now that the Navy is leaving November or December of this year -- should be considered. It may be a conflict by the time the development is planned, drawn, as opposed to when the bridge is built. At least it's something to be considered. Thank you.

MS. KING: Dan Powell.

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MR. POWELL: My name is Dan Powell, and I am chair of the Contra Costa County Transportation

Design Task Force. And our Design Task Force, aimed through the common sense, that any attractiveness that is elected should be cost effective. And that includes such things as bike paths, et cetera. I personally feel that the schedule could be accelerated. I think there are other methods to use that I think that should be considered.

MS. KING: Thank you.

Jim Jackel.

MR. JACKEL: Good evening. Thank you very much for having the hearing here tonight in Contra

Costa County. I'm executive director of the Contra Costa County Council. We are a non-profit, private sector organization. We submit support of the bridge. And I'm here tonight to reiterate for a replacement structure, also to urge that you do take a cost-effective proposal in adding any of the add-ons that are put on this bridge.

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I'm suggesting that prior to making your final recommendation that the council may have a recommendation on the actual design that we favor at this time. We have not. And one thing the council has not discussed, after hearing tonight from your staff, the data for the feedback that you have. Again, given the size of a magnitude, not very large in terms of numbers. And I might suggest it could -- just a poll, I would suggest that this type of hit-and-miss, you are going to get some yeses and some don'ts. I think the size would justify a scientific poll, and I think that data could be helpful to you. Thank you.

MS. KING: Hassan Astaneh.

MR. ASTANEH: Madam Chair and members of the Bridge Design Task Force, thank you for coming up and making comments in less than three minutes.

My name is Hanna Astaneh. I'm a professor of civil

engineering at the University of Berkeley, and it is in Contra Costa County less than five minutes from this place.

And I'm here to make a short comment and invite honorable members of the Bridge Design Task. Force to a presentation that we are going to have on Saturday to -- I will mention that in a moment. But there is a man here who is looking at all the presentations over the last two meetings.

I still emphasize that I hope your Design

Task Force will look into feasibility of a steel

bridge. As far as seismic, a steel bridge is

superior. As far as cost efficiency, we believe

they are superior. And we can make concrete

options. And I believe personally that you can make

them faster and you can come up with a new bridge

option much faster than viaduct.

To really do the walk and just not talk over the last few months, since your presentation of the Bridge Design Task Force, my colleague, Professor Gary Black professor of architectural department at UC Berkeley and myself have formed a team. And with the help of bridge engineers outside of UC Berkeley, we have developed a steel bridge option. And we are going to present that option on

April 19th, 2:00 o'clock, civic auditorium. This is all day. This is a Saturday.

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Anyone interested in the public presentation are very welcome to attend. And certainly we will be honored if any member of your committee as well as any other officials from Contra Costa County to honor us and attend our meeting so we can make our proposal. Thank you.

MS. KING: Are you going to present your proposal also to the Engineering and Design Advisory panel?

MR. ASTANEH: Yes. We have been in touch with Steve Heminger, and we are very pleased that he is going to give us an opportunity to come in front of your body of technical experts. And at that meeting, we will be ready with all the technical information about our proposal. We have finished preliminary seismic analysis as well as service load analysis and approach connections and so forth, so we are not technically ready today to come in front of your group and present our options. But on Saturday, we'll be more celebrity and showing the model, a scale of East Bay and for -- to comment. That was -- we also have West Bay Bridge. So you can see West Bay Bridge and East Bay Bridge. Our

proposal is Saturday, civic auditorium, 2:00 o'clock. So we are very thankful for you to come, to our group to hopefully present technical information as well.

MS. KING: Allen Payton.

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MR. PAYTON: Good afternoon. Just a couple of comments. I'm on City Council, Antioch, also in Contra Costa County of Transportation Authority, but these are no reflection of any of those bodies. These are my own comments. I prefer to see the aesthetics appealing, but a little bit more cost-effective, single-tower cable-stay bridge. I think we need to have something that is appealing on the eastern side of the island.

Also I'm concerned about the hundred million dollar cost of the bike line, which would go to the island on the east side of the Bay Bridge.

I'm also concerned regarding the treatment of the bridge in Northern California. I think they should be treated like the overpass in Southern California, that in a time factor, they were built quite quickly after the earthquake in Southern California. The sped-up time frame, I would like to see if we could do the same thing in Northern California.

And I would like to echo Mr. Welm's

comments earlier regarding the finances of tolls since most of them come from Alameda and Contra Costa County. And so any influence you have over the legislature as far as the financing between the State financing and the tolls, to take that into consideration.

MS. KING: Charlie Abrams.

MR. ABRAMS: Good afternoon. My name is Charlie Abrams. I'm on the city council of the City of Walnut Creek and also a member of the Transportation Authority. I'm pleased to have you out here.

I think I can speak for our whole city council. We did have a thorough discussion on this issue last night, and I think we see the bridge as a very important part of providing a gateway for San Franciscans and Peninsula people to come out to Walnut Creek for their jobs and other destinations. And it is a very important part of our transportation system. I think we unanimously feel that a new bridge is the proper solution. And I think we feel that something needs to be done with a little bit of pizazz. So, therefore, the skyway causeway option is not the favorite.

We have to recognize the cost effective

issues behind that the single-span cable-stay bridge is an attractive option or something like that, that can be done that such -- the pier spacing is at the proper distance to minimize some of the costs and save money in the process.

In any event, there is a strong feeling that we need to make a statement with that bridge other than the costs.

We have a tradition in Walnut Creek. We just built probably the most expensive pedestrian overpass. It pales in comparison, but we spent 1.7 million dollars on a pedestrian overpass, or will be shortly.

With regard to the bike lane, I think there is a consensus that building an extra bike lane possibly does not make sense. It needs to be a simplistic system. It will always be a part of the western section. And we also think that -- I think with the addition of the shoulders on this bridge, they could very well serve purposes of bicycle use on weekends and off-peak periods.

This bridge will be wider than the other bridge. Are there other options? We have looked at Caltrans' analysis, operational analysis of the car pool lane and the bus lane, and I would agree that

it really does not make sense to dedicate a special lane for that purpose.

I think in the final recognition, I think in all fairness and equity, I think there has to be an understanding that quite possibly the tolls will have to be increased for some time period. Some of the other comments of authority members I think actively reflects what Walnut Creek feels about the process so, thank you very much.

MS. KING: For someone who spent half an hour driving around Walnut Creek, your city is beautiful. It reflects the aesthetics that you talked about.

William Vaughn.

MR. DESAULNIER: Did you do that by design or accident?

MS. KING: No. Accident.

MR. VAUGHN: My name is William Vaughn.

I'm a structural engineer. And the reason that I came to this meeting was that I have some concerns about the design, as I've seen them, in the design process that is going on. The two designs that were presented by Caltrans look like designs -- sort of, you know, you open up the book of standards and you pick out this bridge and you put it down on this

site. This is a very unusual and difficult site. I think everybody is going to agree with that.

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On one side, we have Yerba Buena Island, which is virtually a rock. And the last earthquake in '89, it hardly moved. And on the other side, you have, you know, a cable, an area that could possibly create a Kobe type of disaster. And then in between you have 400 feet of mud. And I think that you need to have a site-specific bridge design. And the only thing that so far that I can see that even starts to approach that is the TY1 land bridge. It puts the support on the rock, and then it stretches out to the East Bay.

I sort of feel like if I had to design this bridge, I might -- at the end of that stretch, I might go to a floating bridge and accept the fact that it is going to move. I don't know how much it costs to do that, and I don't know exactly how it would act. But I would feel a little more comfortable with that than I do putting 400 foot pilings not knowing what that mud is going to do. I don't think anybody does.

And one of the other things, instead of having a single tower, I would prefer to see two towers coming up off of that rock and then a lighter

bridge, possibly of steel, that would stretch out there and have much less mass to move around in an earthquake. I have not done any of the studies, and I have not seen all the stuff that you are doing, but those are kind of my thoughts about this.

One last thought in terms of making money, you see these pictures by people who have been up on the Golden Gate Bridge, and they get to see from the top of the Golden Gate Bridge. I don't know how much it would cost, but if we had twin towers with little viewing platforms and some elevators up there, we can charge people \$10 a head to go up and see that Bay from that wonderful vantage point. And it could be just as the group of Alcatraz Island, maybe. It's a little far-fetched. Those are my ideas about that bridge, and I shared them.

MS. KING: That creates a challenge for cars from Yerba Buena. Where do they park their cars as they take the elevator up there? That's all right. You can think about that at your next public hearing.

Robert Waal.

MR. WAAL: Hi. My name is Robert Waal.

I'm a civil engineer, and I used to work for

Caltrans in bridge construction. And I'm very

interested in seeing what we have going on. I think we reached a historical crossroad to actually get to design another bridge of the same proportion as we have in the Bay Area. There are not too many left to do.

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If you talk to people throughout the world and throughout the country what they think about the Bay Area, one of the things that comes up is the prominent -- is the Golden Gate Bridge and the Bay Bridge and the variety of bridges. And we really -- I really think that is an extremely important concept or idea that we have here, is that we have some of the most beautiful bridges and probably one of the most beautiful settings in the world.

And I think that is just as important as all the other decisions including seismic and cost. Even if it costs a little bit more money or a lot more money, I think in the long run we will all be happy for it. And I think our grandchildren and their grandchildren will be as happy to see something that has some aesthetic value as opposed to something that was the least expensive, the quickest way to build.

And as one other person commented earlier tonight, I haven't seen any views showing the

western portion with the eastern portion, and I certainly think that whatever goes on the eastern side should complement and not compete with the western side.

MS. KING: Neal Johnson.

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MR. JOHNSON: Hi. I came in late, so I don't know if you discussed an arch bridge design yet. But as you may see with the card there, I have a picture of the fork pit bridge in Pittsburgh. I have had a chance to travel over some bridges both cable-stay and arch bridges, and I believe this would be an appropriate discussion for the appropriate span and I also have on there more detailed preference as to various and secondary points which you will have to consider. And I hope you take them into consideration.

MS. KING: Thank you.

Hsue Chentung.

MR. CHENTUNG: From newspapers, I was aware of two kinds of long span cable-stay bridge options to replace the east span of the Bay Bridge of San Francisco Bay Area offered by Caltrans. They are a rather pioneer bridge options in high seismic region as San Francisco Bay Area.

I'm willing to support such options.

However, I'll give my preliminary seismic view to such options. We have to pay special considerations, cautions, of special problems confronted in the seismic structure analysis for design of such kind of bridges.

One, linear seismic analysis of horizontal movements among bridge piers due to seismic wave passage effects of earthquake excitations.

Two, analysis of nonlinear siesmic response of cable-stay on the long span, near half kilometer. The bridge comprises of two categories of ninlinear properties. One in the cable's nonlinear physics property, another is the geometrical nonlinear property due to high seismic excitation in vertical direction. As all of us we know, the cable can't take compression on the one moment and long cable on another moment nor to take tension over stressed due to vertical earthquake excitation.

Furthermore, and additional comment for today. Preliminary seismic view of cable-stay bridge options will be offered in another preliminary meeting held by Caltrans. Thank you.

MS. KING: Thank you.

Kathy Tate.

MS. TATE: Good evening. Thank you for coming to Contra Costa County. My name is Kathy Tate, and I'm a member of a very big bicycle touring club. I'm also in the newsletter club for the California Bicycle Association. I'm very, very concerned about some of the comments that have been made tonight. But I'm going to preface a few of my comments. No matter how many freeways or bridges are built, there will never be enough. We have got to take a look at accommodating other means of transportation. We'll never be able to accommodate all the motor vehicles. Bicycles are a proven alternative means of transportation. But in the Bay Area, we have big blocks. They are called bridges. And so we can't get across to areas where we want to go.

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Off-peak hours are not going to work
because we are also denied alternative
transportation at this time unless we are going to
be driving. As far as cost-effective is concerned,
I cannot believe some of the comments that were made
tonight regarding spending. The bicyclists were out
there supporting, getting the funds from grants to
support some of the other projects going on. Do you
think we are going to stop in this instance as

well?

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We have contributed to the tax base in this State. A lot of us don't just ride bicycles, a lot of us drive cars as well. So we are paying those gas taxes. We deserve to also have another means of getting across the bridges.

So any concerns that these people have about not having accommodations for the bicyclists on this bridge by not allowing the lanes on the cantilever areas, we need to have those. We are not going to be able to accommodate all motor vehicles. All of these people are going to have to look at the possibility of getting on the bikes themselves. Thank you.

MS. KING: Thank you. That's our final speaker.

I have a letter that would like -- that Commissioner Brown would like to read into the record.

MR. BROWN: This is a letter from the City of Brentwood. They asked me to read it into the record.

"As a Bay Area resident and Mayor of the City of Brentwood, I would like to raise my concerns on the use of transportation money for the bicycle

and pedestrian access on the Bay Bridge.

"Our city council is actively involved in transportation issues. We believe the need for transportation expenditures is far greater in other areas at this time. Our community continues to support and fund bicycle- and pedestrian-friendly uses where they are practical, feasible in terms of design. The most cost-effective and functional design should be utilized as to best spend our limited transportation resources.

"The entire transportation infrastructure and region is in need of improvement. An example is Highway 4, which runs through our city, which is utilizing an infrastructure built as early as 1904.

"Please relay my concerns to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission."

Signed John Morrill, Mayor of Brentwood.

Thank you.

MS. KING: Thank you.

I want to thank all of you for coming.

This will not be our final or last county to comment. It is only the beginning, and there will be two more public hearings, one in Suisun City and the other in the City and County of San Francisco.

And then there will be the Design and Engineering

Design Task Force that is meeting intermittently. You can get that information from staff, where they will be meeting and at what times. There will be a couple of workshops that are going on. Caltrans is available. Please continue to share with us your thoughts and as we go into our deliberation process later in the summer, we will be certainly also accepting your comments at that time.

We appreciate very much your being with us in the beginning, and we appreciate the diversity of views. And I want to thank my colleagues from Contra Costa County because obviously you did your homework and turned out a very articulate group of people to present to us on this topic and on the subject.

So we will adjourn at this point, and we will see you as we go further down this bridge.

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See St. 20 pg. 4530 5-rl Slagger of 9733

Time concluded: 6:45 p.m.

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

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I, ADRIENNE PERETTI, CSR No. 11029, Certified Shorthand Reporter, certify;

That the foregoing proceedings were taken before me at the time and place therein set forth, at which time the witness was put under oath by me;

That the testimony of the witness and all objections made at the time of the examination were recorded stenographically by me and were thereafter transcribed:

That the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of my shorthand notes so taken.

I further certify that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or of any of the parties, nor financially interested in the action.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated this 22nd day of April, 1997.

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I, ADRIENNE PERETTI, CSR. No. 11029, a

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deposition of KENNETH SANTOS taken on March 20, 1997.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

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		Page

Bay Bridge Eastern Span Replacement Preferences Neal Johnson

Alignment:

Northern alignment is strongly preferred

No S-curves

One gentle curve over water

One gentle curve west of toll plaza

Signature bridge aligns and compliments western span

Improves visibility of tunnel entrance for westbound traffic

Width:

Roadway width should be 74 feet (5x12'+10'+4')

Bicycle lanes too expensive to duplicate access provided by BART

Wider shoulders on east span will make west span seem narrow

Decking:

Signature bridge should be double decked

Improved island interchange simpler w/right merges & left exits

Better aesthetics for signature bridge

Transition to single deck on either northern alignment curve

No S-curves

Western curve preferred if not much more expensive

Signature bridge type:

Arch

Attractive

See attached-Ft. Pitt Bridge in foreground

Complimentary to western span

Vertical suspending cables

Not too much

Doesn't compete with western span

More similar to existing cantilever

Especially if steel

Added diversity

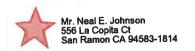
No major arch bridges in the Bay Area

Proposed Carquinez replacement should be Cable-stayed

Second Choice-Single Tower Cable-stayed

Third Choice-Double Tower Cable-stayed

Not a Choice-Skyway



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CONTRA COSTA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY BOARD MEMBERS Attending Bay Bridge Task Force Meeting

Charlie Abrams
Sarge Littlehale
John Marquez (Chair)
Allen Payton
Herman Welm

Bob McCleary (Executive Director)

Following Commissioners may arrive late:
Millie Greenberg
Barbara Guise
Julie Pierce
Lloyd Wagstaff

* They would like to speak and request you call on them firston ifem # 5